

**REMARKS**

Claims 41-44, 52, 55 and 56 were examined in the Office Action under reply. Claims 41, 42, 52, 55 and 58 were allowed.

Claims 43 and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. These claims have been amended to clarify that the fusion protein is linked to the carrier using a disulfide/amide-forming agent (claim 43) or a thio-ether-forming agent (claim 44). Support for these amendments can be found in the specification, for example, at page 20, lines 8-11. Thus, this basis for rejection has been overcome and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

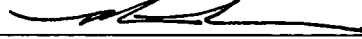
Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Please direct all further communications in this application to:

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Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1/30/07

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